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Can Bees that are Non-Swarming be Secured?

BY G. M. DOOLITTLE.

A correspondent writes me protesting against some of the teachings of the past regarding new swarms being the best for honey, and queens from swarming-cells being the best queens for the average bee-keeper; he wishes me to give my views regarding these matters in the American Bee Journal, and to offer any suggestions I may think proper. He states that "hundreds of bee-keepers do not want swarms," which I have

should be written, or what should not be written, we must take in the great multitude of bee-keepers as a whole, and not narrow ourselves down to just what we want, but go out in our thoughts, asking the question, "What will be the greatest good to the greatest number?" Failing to do this, we are not complying with the golden rule, nor using that broad charity for others which it is our privilege to use at all times, if we would make the world better for our having lived in it.

I think that, as a whole, in the past, I have given more matter on "How to prevent increase," and save to others the providing to themselves of hundreds of dollars worth of hives, which often become empty and useless property, than I have on the different methods of increase, for on the whole, I am in favor of running an apiary on the plan of as little increase as possible; yet while I now so feel, I have not forgotten the time when I was so anxious for natural increase that I lay awake nights planning how it might be obtained.

In regard to queens from swarming-cells carrying the swarming mania throughout the country, I doubt very much there being any ground for such an idea, only a mistaken one, yet this brings me to the main point I wish to make in this article, which is, Is it possible to breed out of bees the dispo-



Apiary and Home of Mr. Henry Sutherland, Bathbridge, Mich.—See page 56.

not the least doubt is the case, yet it is equally certain that hundreds of bee-keepers do want swarms, and it has been for these latter I have written at times in the past, when I have spoken favorably to new swarms, and not for those who do not wish swarms, like the correspondent. What the object of others has been, who have written favorable to natural swarming, I do not know; they can answer for themselves. The point I wish to make right here is, in thinking of what

sition to swarm? I have always said that it is not, nor do I now believe it entirely possible, yet some things have come under my observation of late that have modified my opinions to a considerable extent. I have said little of the matter, but it may be better to speak of it now, so that others may try their hand, and thus perhaps perfection may be reached sooner, for, "In the multitude of counselors there is safety."

All who have read my book on queen-rearing will remem-

ber that I have adopted a different plan of queen-rearing from what I have formerly used. All who have had experience in the matter also know that the best queens are reared in case of two queens in a hive, or, in other words, when a young queen is reared and fertilized from the same hive which has an old and laying queen in it at the time when the young one is reared. This is a fact which none will dispute; but the point to be arrived at is, Are queens thus reared less likely to swarm than are those reared under the swarming-impulse? The method I have adopted and given in my book, is nearly the same as that used by the bees where two laying queens are tolerated in a hive at the same time, as the queens are reared above a queen-excluding honey-board when the old queen is doing full duty below, the colony not having the least disposition to swarm while the queens are being reared.

About seven years ago I began to notice that I was not having nearly as many swarms as formerly, and the number of swarms coming from my apiary has continued to be less, so that during the last two years I have not had one swarm to where I used to have ten. All the older readers of the American Bee Journal will remember that, during the '70's, I had excessive swarming, one season having above 350 swarms from less than 70 colonies in the spring. Swarm they would in spite of all that I could do, so that it was nothing unusual for me to have from five to ten swarms in the air at once, while in one case I had as high as 14 swarms all clustered together. As I go back to those days in memory, it certainly does seem that I have made progress along the non-swarming line, for I have not had as many swarms during the past two years as I often had in one day then, and it almost begins to look as if the method of queen-rearing may have had something to do with it. To be sure, some of the seasons of late have not been very good for honey, which may have had something to do with the matter; yet the seasons when the greatest number of swarms issued during the '70's, were those when only about a half of a crop was obtained.

I am greatly interested in this matter, and am keeping close watch of it, and I wish all who rear queens *entirely* above a queen-excluding honey-board would test the thing also, and so be helping to solve the problem, so that we may reach something definite in the matter. Why I say "entirely" is, that some advise having the cells started by colonies having the swarming-impulse, and, after they are started, place them above queen-excluders for completion. Of course, this would not be entirely along the line given in my book, and consequently would not be likely to be as perfect as to results. If we could only breed the swarming-impulse out of our bees, it would seem as if it would be better for the majority of those who keep bees as a specialty; for it is a very easy matter to obtain all the increase desired by the nucleus system, or a division of colonies after the harvest of white honey is over. Or, perhaps, we might breed a certain type of bees as non-swarmers, allowing other types to swarm, the same as we have types of hens which sit, and others which do not incline to sit.

Borodino, N. Y.



Evolution and Queen-Clipping Again.

BY ALLEN PRINGLE.

I am a little late in noting what is said on this subject on page 793 (1895) in rejoinder to some strictures of mine in a previous issue. I note what the editor says in a foot-note, and while I could very easily and effectually dispose of the writer's contentions, I shall not ask the editor to continue a discussion which might, as he remarks, "evolute into one on religious beliefs," though it certainly would not on my side, for I think I could discuss the great scientific and philosophical questions in issue on their merits, without getting down to creeds or beliefs.

In these times, when evolution has become the "working hypothesis" in all secular science and philosophy, it is quite impossible to thoroughly discuss the range of subjects properly embraced even in bee-culture, without getting onto just such ground as Bee-Master, Dr. Miller, and myself now occupy in this queen-clipping discussion. And it is certainly not very creditable to the intelligence and liberality of the confraternity of apian readers, that they cannot stand the friendly discussion of a great question like this, which grew directly out of a legitimate subject for a bee-journal, and hence comes fairly within its province. I know "Bee-Master," my opponent; he is a gentleman of education and ability; and as I know myself equally well, I know that in discussing this matter there would be no unfriendly feeling or word—no personality whatever—nothing that a reasonable man, not afraid of open discussion, need fear. Nevertheless, the editor

feels that readers would object to it, and deems it his duty to shut down. Under such circumstances I do not blame him, but I do not, I must confess, think much of the reader who would blame him for continuing the discussion.

However, as already remarked, I shall not attempt to go contra to the editor's wishes by continuing the discussion; but "I rise to a point of order," or a "question of privilege," and must make a correction and explanation, as my opponent has misunderstood me on the vital point of all. He says: "Mr. Pringle dogmatically asserts that I cannot hold the two opposing philosophies of Evolution and Creation," and goes on at some length to show how he can hold them both consistently. But I did not say that, or mean that. This is what I asserted: "He is astride two opposing philosophies—which are utterly irreconcilable. These two philosophies are *evolution* and *special creation*. He may take either one, and I shall not complain, but in trying to ride both horses, he must have a fall."

My opponent is confounding *creation* with *special creation*. They are quite different, and I supposed my opponent was sufficiently well read in modern science and modern thought to know the difference. *Special creation* means that every species of animal and plant was separately and specially created, and that man, of course, was so specially created, according to the Mosaic cosmogony. Evolution, on the contrary, teaches and proves that species are evolved from each other—that they have all come from one or more original, primeval protoplasmic forms, and that man is no exception to the rule, but is himself a product of evolution instead of being a special creation. The general or original creation which Bee-Master probably means, is the creation of the primeval *protoplasm*, or, at most, of a few original forms of life, evolution doing all the rest. Such original creation I neither affirm nor deny, and I freely admit that between it and evolution there is no necessary conflict, while between *special creation* and evolution the conflict is utterly irreconcilable.

The reader will thus see that my opponent's whole argument was built upon what I did not assert—"dogmatically" or otherwise. Having thus merely made a correction and explanation without argument, I reluctantly stop, having that editorial foot-note before my eye.

Selby, Ont.

[We regret that Mr. Pringle "stops reluctantly," for it seemed to us that there was nothing to be gained by a continuation of the discussion of clipping queens' wings. The principal objection to clipping, offered by Bee-Master, was so utterly imaginative and theoretical that to use much space in considering it would be a clear waste. And surely Mr. Pringle would not desire the readers of the Bee Journal to wade through a lot of evolution theory, which, at best, is mighty dry reading to most people, and quite unprofitable, especially to so practical and busy people as bee-keepers are supposed to be. Space in the Bee Journal is altogether too limited to discuss subjects so deep and far-reaching as those found in the domains of spiritual, political or evolutionary thought. We propose to leave those subjects to periodicals devoted specially to them. Please all bear in mind that this is a bee-paper.—EDITORS.]



Self-Hiving Arrangements and Queen-Traps.

BY ADRIAN GETAZ.

All the self-hivers invented so far are comprised under two different types. The first one (Fig. 1) has the self-hiver separated from the main hive by a piece of queen-excluding zinc and a queen-escape. Another zinc at the entrance of the hiver retains the queen in the self-hiver when swarming occurs. The hive may be a regular hive, or a box containing a few empty combs to hold the swarm temporarily. It has been placed in front, under, and, I think, sometimes at the side of the main hive.

I constructed them about as shown in Fig. 1. The entrance of the main hive was larger than usual; there was ample space between the main hive and the zinc conducting into the hiver. Both zincs were of large size, not less than 35 to 40 square inches. All that was so the ventilation of the hive should not be hindered.

Such hives will have full swarms every time, and take up nearly all the field bees, as whenever the bees come in they will stay in the hiver rather than go beyond; that is, after the hiver is occupied by the queen and the swarm.

The trouble with that style of hivers occurs between the

time the hiver is attached to the main hive, and the swarming. As it is readily understood, the working bees have to go through the hiver every time they go out and come back. The drones can, and will, come out through the queen-escape and be confined in the hiver. There they will stay quite awhile, being fed by the bees. The mischief is, that they are in the habit of clustering on the inside zinc (between the hiver and the main hive). The bees do so, also, to some extent. The result is, not only the ventilation of the main hive is interfered with, but the coming in and going out of the field-bees is considerably hindered. Frequently the bees take possession of the combs or foundation placed in the hiver without swarming. This gave me the idea of putting sections in the hiver, and from that I readily got the idea of turning the field-bees

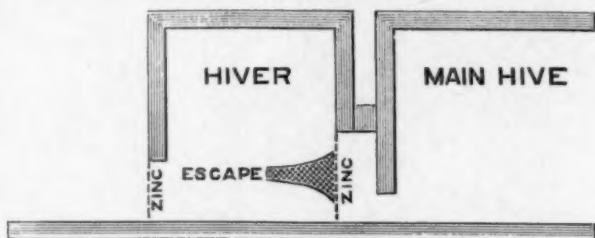


Fig. 1.

into the supers, as described in some of my previous writings in the American Bee Journal.

In calling the attention of the readers to this, it is to point out in what direction improvements should be attempted, but not to advise using the hiver as above described, as I was compelled to abandon it altogether.

The second type of self-hiver used so far is as shown in Fig. 2, that is, a queen-trap large enough to admit the placing of combs in the apartment where the queen is caught and confined when swarming occurs. This having but one zinc between the main hive and the outside world, will not interfere appreciably with the working of bees or the ventilation, provided, however, that the zinc at the entrance of the hiver and all the openings are of a sufficient size. But it will not retain a full swarm; the majority of the bees will go back to the main hive rather than climb into the hiver through the inside zinc. I think, though, that with some ingenuity a disposition of the zincs could be found that might prevent it, but whatever may be attempted in that direction ought to be with having the bees to pass through only one zinc in their work to and from the field. The disposition of the escape and zincs shown in Fig. 2 is adopted in view of leading the queen into the hiver. Nevertheless, she will sometimes go back into the brood-nest instead of through the escape.

QUEEN-TRAPS VS. HIVERS.

If I could be in my apiaries every day, or every other day, I would simply use queen-traps, or perhaps entrance-guards, rather than any kind of hivers. But if the apiarist may be absent a whole week or more, then the second type of hiver just described is better than a queen-trap. When the queen finds herself a prisoner in the trap, she institutes a thorough investigation as to the means of escaping, and in the course of two or three days succeeds in going back to the main hive through the cones. No sooner back there, she swarms again, and, knowing how to go back, does it at once, then daily swarming, or rather attempts at swarming, take place, and last as long as queens and queen-cells are present—that is, until the last queen has emerged. In fact, the queen-trap is not much better in such cases than a mere entrance queen-excluder.

When a swarm issues and the queen is retained in the hiver, enough bees stay with her, and combs are there, so the queen does not even attempt to go back; some work is done there, and is that much gained. Until a virgin queen emerges, no swarming will take place, and the usual work is resumed in the main hive, as well as it was before swarming. With the appearance of a virgin queen, swarming is resumed, and the young queen gets into the hiver. There a fight between the queens takes place, and one of the two is killed, almost invariably the old one.

In all my experiments with queen-traps, hivers and excluders, only one laying queen has held her own against the virgin queens. The next day the same will be repeated, and so on until eventually no more cells are left in the brood-nest; one virgin queen is in the hiver, and another in the brood-nest. In the course of a few days the latter comes out to mate, and meets the other in the hiver. A last fight takes place, and only one virgin queen is left in the hiver. When

the apiarist comes, all he has to do is to remove the hiver and allow the queen to mate—that is, if it has not interfered before.

When the old queen gets into the hiver, no more eggs are laid in the brood-nest, and, more than that, hardly ever are any more queen-cells started after she has left, from the fact that the number of bees in the main hive is considerably reduced. The queen-cells already started will be all matured, generally in from 12 to 15 days. By that time the last virgin queen has emerged, and swarming is at an end.

With a queen-trap as an excluder, the case is different. The old queen will remain in the hive and lay eggs until she is killed by one of the virgin queens—generally the first one emerged; and since the hive remains crowded, new queen-cells will be started as long as there is any brood old enough to make a queen.

As I have stated above, no queen will stay in a queen-trap more than two or three days. The majority of them will get out during the night after they have been caught. Perhaps my queen-traps were not very well made.

Of course, all the above supposes that the apiarist has not been able to attend to his bees sooner. I have only a limited number of hivers and traps, all the other hives having queen-excluders. A swarm issuing the first time may come out late in the day, but the following days they are sure to be out early; they may come back at once, or perhaps later during the day, generally before 12 o'clock. A returned swarm will hang on the outside of the excluder quite awhile, so by going into the apiary between 10 and 12 o'clock, a.m., the apiarist will early discover which hives have been swarming and need attention. The sooner they are attended to the better.

If increase is desired, move the old hive to a new stand, except a comb or two with a queen-cell on the old stand unless the queen is there. Better destroy all the queen-cells but one in the queenless hive, but leave the excluder on in case a queen-cell was overlooked. If no increase is needed, remove the old queen and allow requeening by leaving one queen-cell. (This in order to prevent further swarming.) Have an excluder on (a queen-trap or hiver will do as well); wait until the young queen has emerged and destroyed the old one, then destroy the queen-cells. Do not spend more time than necessary to find the cells, but leave the excluder. If any cell has been overlooked, swarming will take place sometime during the next two days, if the weather is not too bad. No queen-cell will be started in the presence of a virgin queen, at least that has been my experience so far.

FINDING QUEENS AND QUEEN-CELLS.

To find the queens and queen-cells, have an excluder before the hive; put in front of this a board or platform about 2 feet square, one side resting on the alighting-board, and the other propped up from the ground. Take the combs out one by one, shake the bees on the platform, and set the combs anywhere, but not in the hive. It is not necessary to shake them clean, the queen falls easily, and all that you need is that enough bees are off to permit you to see the queen-cells.

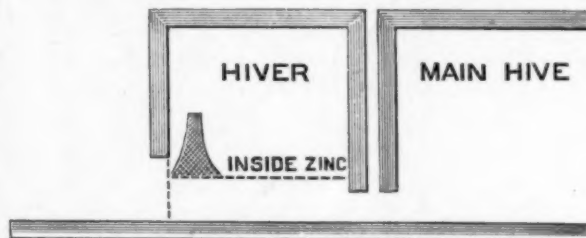


Fig. 2.

Do not take too much time. The queen will be found probably before the excluder, trying to get in, perhaps in the hive, perhaps on one of the combs. If you leave a virgin queen in the hive, leave the excluder on for two or three days. If any queen-cell has been left, you will know it by the bees swarming.

Bees shaken on a platform as above described, will stay there, or, at most, will partly hang at the edges; while if shaken on the ground, they would crawl everywhere, especially inside the operator's trousers.

QUEENLESS SWARMS.

The behavior of queenless swarms under circumstances as above described is interesting. The first day a queenless swarm comes out, it hardly ever clusters, and returns in a

short time. The following day it comes out early and stays out longer, probably clusters. The third day the bees will certainly cluster, and perhaps go away half a mile or so and cluster again. Every day they will stay out longer and cut up all sorts of capers worse and worse before returning. Occasionally they stay out until the next morning. They hardly ever swarm twice a day. Sometimes in coming back they scatter into two or several different hives.

As to uniting together, it depends upon the circumstances, and a trifling cause may determine two queenless swarms to unite and all go back to the same hive. If while a swarm is returning and "calling," another in the air would be almost sure to unite; but one clustered would not pay any attention to it.

Once I was working with a hive. When through, and the hive was closed, the bees began to "call" at the entrance as they usually do in such cases. A swarm in the air hearing the call, came and entered the hive; that is, would have done so if I had not prevented.

A queenless swarm never swarms as compactly as a normal one. The cluster is irregular, and has a more or less ragged shape, changing constantly. The bees are much more restless, and move continually. A queenless swarm will also fly slower, and closer to the ground, than a normal one. Neither will the bees fly as close together.

MATING OF QUEENS.

All that is very well—excluders and queen-traps will certainly prevent the swarms from decamping, except, perhaps, when a strange swarm, passing by, might unite with one of your queenless swarms. But, by and by, some virgin queens will have to mate, and if some queenless swarm happened to be out at the same time, the whole outfit would go to the woods and never return—at least this would be nearly always the outcome of the meeting. I once had an exception. The queen brought the swarm to her own hive. I suppose they met after she was fecundated, and already on her way home.

Very rarely a swarm issues after 3 o'clock p.m. The best is to remove the excluders only from that time until night, and only when the apiarist is present; then should a swarm issue, it could be taken care of. Sometimes a queen has not yet returned when the apiarist closes the excluders and goes home. That does not matter; she will stay on the excluder, outside, and be taken care of by the bees, even for several days, and be just as good.

QUEENS PASSING THROUGH THE ZINC,

or rather not passing through the perforated queen-excluding zinc—we must be careful in our conclusions on this point. As I stated above, a queen caught in a trap, will eventually go back through the cones, and we might think that she has passed through the zinc. Sometimes there is a hole somewhere—a cover warped, leaving a crack at one corner; a zinc bent somewhere. My hive-bottoms are made of two pieces or more. The ends, exposed to the weather, do not shrink much, but the part under the hive being kept dry, shrinks sometimes enough to leave a crack between the two pieces big enough for any queen to go through. Knoxville, Tenn.



An Eventful Visit to an Out-Apiary.

BY C. P. DADANT.

Let me warn the reader, at the outset, that I have no information of any value to give him in this article. Perhaps some of you will say that this is no news, and that you took it for granted at the start. But, if I succeed in making you laugh at my expense, my object will be attained; and let me say that I vouch for the truth of all that I am about to relate.

Some six or eight years ago I took a trip to the South, and went to visit a brother bee-keeper living less than a thousand miles from St. Louis. He is a nice, warm-hearted fellow, very enthusiastic over all that he does, and he welcomed me heartily. I arrived there on Saturday evening, and after examining his bees, his Heddon hives and his large hives, which he was then testing side by side, he took me into his home, where I made the acquaintance of his old mother, a nice, gray-haired lady with the genteel manners of well-bred New England folks. I was royally treated, and the next morning my friend, whom I will call X, so as not to hurt his modesty, proposed to me to take a trip to his out-apiary, four miles away. This apiary had been established but a short time, and I concluded that he was taking a pride in showing me that others could have out-apiaries as well as ourselves. But it was not out of bee-keeping pride that he wanted to go there, as I found later. X was a single man, and there was a young lady, living in the

neighborhood of that apiary, whom he evidently felt required to visit every Sunday.

It was a raw March day; the roads, well—there was no bottom to them. X had a nice, new top-buggy and a neat, fiery little bay mare which had but one fault—she was balky. She could go "like the wind;" in fact, it was of no use to hold her, for go she must, and if you tried to slacken her pace she would stop and stay there, quite a little while longer than you liked. So we started at full speed, in the mud, but the buggy was good, and we had a storm-apron that kept the flying slop out of our faces. In due time—no, I mean before due time, for the horse galloped all the way—we reached the apiary, some 60 or 80 colonies nicely arranged in rows on a hillside. And, of course, your humble servant got acquainted with a very nice young lady, who he felt sure would be a bee-keeper's wife some day not very far distant.

When the hour came for retracing our steps towards the city, Mr. X inquired of the host in regard to another route, which had been less in use, and which they seemed to think would be less muddy than the much-traveled road through which we had come. This route was a sort of a private road, and consequently less traveled. There was one stream to ford—"Wood river"—which might be swelled by the recent thaw, but our host assured us it was "all right." So we started down the valley, and soon got to the edge of Wood river—a slow and quiet stream, probably 30 feet in width, running its smooth and muddy course noiselessly among the willows. "What do you think of it?" said X. "Bah, it is surely safe enough," said I; accustomed as I was to the noisy torrents of our county, this little stream did not seem to have a foot of water in it.

In went our horse with a rush, and we instantly found ourselves in four feet of water, and there the horse—balked. That buggy was not very high, and we had water on the seat, so we stood up, or rather stooped up under the top, waiting for the horse to start. Did you ever have to wait for a balky horse to change his mind, yourself knee-deep in the water, with an unknown quantity of the same muddy beverage on either side, wishing for dry weather? If so, you have a faint idea of our feelings.

After a few minutes X tried to coax the horse forward, but only succeeded in getting her to plunge in such a fashion that she entirely disappeared under the water for a few seconds, and took us about ten feet down the stream and out of the main track. It was then next to impossible to turn back into the main road without backing, even with a steady horse, for the stream was narrow and the banks very steep. Backing with this horse was out of the question. We began to seriously consider the necessity of wading to shore. X is a gentleman all over, and when he saw me look at my traveling suit, knowing I did not have my entire wardrobe along with me, he concluded that I should not soil my clothes—he bravely took off his coat and vest, fastened them in the only dry place in reach—the brace of the buggy-top—and jumped into the water.

"Now," said he, "there is no use of two of us getting wet; I am strong enough to carry you to shore." And so he did, though I felt a little ashamed of accepting such a generous offer.

Then he returned to the horse and unhitched her. When she found herself free, the little mare quietly walked to shore. Then X hitched himself at the shafts and tried to pull the buggy out, but the bank was steep, and the bottom was sandy, so he had to tie one of the lines to the shaft and hand the other end to me, and by the efforts of both, the rig was at last on shore, but full of water.

That buggy was new, as I said before, and held water like a tub. We had nothing to bail it out with, and houses were too far away. So we upset the buggy to take out the water; but, unfortunately, we forgot to remove the coat and vest that were fastened to it, and spilled the contents on the two garments. Still we were not out of our trouble, for, after having hitched up and started off, we found that the by-road that we had taken had been lately fenced in, in two different places. Luckily these were of the old-style of worm fences, and with a few minutes' delay we managed to get through.

We soon reached the city, where a good fire and a hearty supper awaited us. A temporary change of garments, especially of foot-wear, soon set matters right. The kind hospitality of X, and of his aged mother, I will not forget, neither will he, nor I, readily forget our experience in Wood river.

Hamilton, Ill.

P. S.—Let me add that X has since married the young lady who was the indirect cause of this eventful trip.

C. P. D.

A Visit Among Some Utah Bee-Keepers.

BY E. S. LOVESY.

At this writing I am located up near the clouds, near the top of the Wasatch Mountains. I came out here thinking to take a rest and to visit an uncle that I had not seen for over 26 years, but as soon as I stepped off the cars at Echo, in Summit county, I walked into Mr. Hopkins' store, to inquire about Uncle Blackwell, when I was greeted with a hearty hand-grasp, and an "Oh, yes, you are one of our prominent bee-keepers, I believe!" I admitted that I owned some bees. So I was taken in tow by the bee-keepers of Summit and Morgan counties, and while I came out here without even thinking about bees or bee-keepers, and although I was taken by surprise, I have had a pleasant time visiting the bee-keepers in the different townships, and a more kind, generous lot of people I never met.

We held two bee-meetings—one in Croydon county and one in Morgan—and the result was the organization of the Morgan County Bee-Keepers' Association, Dec. 5, 1895. The officers of the association are: President, T. R. G. Welch; Vice-President-at-large, Robert Hogg; Secretary, David Coolheds; and P. A. Jackman Vice-President of north Morgan county. Very interesting sessions were held, and many subjects discussed. I was called on, and talked about how to make our bees profitable. I tried to show that with proper management bee-keeping is one of the best paying industries in Utah.

Dear old Uncle Blackwell, now nearly 81 years of age, is about the only one left that links us with our bee-keeping days in old Gloucestershire, nearly half a century ago. He reminded me of the days when I was a little bee-keeper. I used to watch the bees, and when they swarmed I often fancy even now that I hear the racket I used to make with a cobble-stone and a tin pan in trying to settle them. Uncle B. asked my opinion about trying to settle bees by this method. Like myself, he cannot see how it can affect the bees, unless it is possible to make enough noise to drive them off! There are many people who believe in it now. Last year a bee-keeper followed a swarm of bees into our garden with a tin pan, but I believe it was the hives more than the pan that attracted them. I have generally been successful in settling swarms by throwing water or sand among them; it confuses, and thus causes them to settle.

We have had a very interesting time talking about those bee-keeping days of the long ago. My father made his money off of pork and bees, and that brought us to this land of the free. The bees were destroyed with sulphur before the honey was taken out of the hive. The hives were made of straw twisted like a rope, and sewed together with fine willows. In shape they were round, and oval on top. In winter each hive was thatched with straw from four to six inches thick, gathered tightly together at the top and trimmed even around the bottom. Bees never died in winter put up in this way, as long as there was any honey in the hive, because it gave the requirements necessary for the successful wintering of bees, viz.: It kept them warm and dry, and absorbed all moisture.

The past three weeks I have visited a number of bee-keepers in this and other counties, and I have found many hives with those everlasting tight covers. The frames are moldy, and the bees are like a man would be if he were dipped into a mill-pond in the month of January; then when the temperature gets down towards zero the bees cannot leave the cluster to seek food, and thus they smother with foul air and die of starvation. I have put up my bees something after this method, using lucern instead of straw, and they appear to be all right.

I have had a grand time visiting my uncle, and also among the bee-keepers here. There is just enough snow to make sleighing agreeable. The people do most of their traveling up here about three months of the year, with the merry sleigh-bells jingling, while in Salt Lake City we seldom get more than a week of sleighing weather, and sometimes not that much.

All the settlements in Morgan county are nestled in three not very large valleys, and surrounded entirely by the grand old Wasatch Mountains. As we enter from the east by way of Echo, we pass through what is called "The Narrows," where the mountains on each side come down into the river bed and the Union Pacific railway track—it is the same as we come in from the lower end of the valley, from Ogden or the west. But between those points the valleys widen out, and here we find one fine city and nine other settlements—a prettier spot in summer, or a more healthy place it would be hard to find on the globe.

There is said to be over 500 colonies of bees in and around Morgan city, and if there is finer honey in the world

than is gathered in those mountains I have not seen it. The people live mostly by farming, wool and stock raising.

I now return to the great and only city called "Salt Lake."

Questions AND Answers

CONDUCTED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.

[Questions may be mailed to the Bee Journal, or to Dr. Miller direct.]

Quality of Catnip Honey.

What quality of honey is produced from catnip? The bees work on it more than anything else in this locality, but it is scarce. It remains a long time in bloom. W. J. M.
Cedarville, Mo.

ANSWER.—Catnip has always had the reputation of a fine honey-plant, but I don't know whether any one has ever had a sample of pure catnip honey. I have an impression it is of good quality, but I have no positive knowledge. [I have seen honey that had quite a catnip taste, and I rather liked it. It ought to be good for a colicky stomach!—G. W. Y.]

When to Move the Bees.

I have a chance to buy 25 colonies of bees. When would you move them—when it is good sleighing, or wait until spring? F. A. S.
Shavertown, Pa.

ANSWER.—It would be very nice if you could move them on a very cold day with good sleighing, and then have the next day a fine warm day with plenty of flowers for the bees to work upon. But as that can't be had, and as it's a bad thing to disturb bees without allowing them a chance for a flight soon after, I think you will do better to wait till spring.

Starting in Bee-Keeping and Making it Pay.

1. Suppose I wish to have an income from the bees of \$500, about how many colonies would you think I should have? I mean this to apply to a man of reasonable intelligence, close application, and the second or third year of the work.

2. Would the care of this number be more than I could stand? This is like asking the size of a piece of chalk. Perhaps the question would be more intelligible if I said I could do as much physical work as an average woman.

My present intention is to get two or three colonies in the spring, and try them the coming summer. If we suit each other, the apiary can be started after that. I cannot afford to venture much. INQUIRER.

ANSWER.—I've done more than the usual amount of thinking as to how best to answer your questions so as not to mislead, for such questions are very hard to answer. But I'll do the best I can. Answering your second question first, I think you would have no trouble on the score of strength, providing you were sure of good crops every year. And I may as well say in the first place that the greatest trouble comes from the element of uncertainty as to crops. Worse than all, crops are more uncertain of late years than they were formerly. If you had asked me the same questions 20 years ago, I could have answered with less hesitation, and could, or at least would, have given you a more definite answer than I dare to do now. But I'm afraid some disappointment might have followed on depending upon my answers. Twenty years ago I said no one ought to embark in bee-keeping as his sole business unless he had enough ahead to stand an entire failure of the crop for one year. At present I should change the one year to two or three, and I should hardly advise any one to drop everything else for bee-keeping unless he had enough ahead to need but a small income from

the bees. Of course there may come another change, and the next ten years may be better than the past ten.

Your private letter explains to me that you are near a large city where there is much vacant land and plenty of sweet clover. I feel more uncertain how to reply than if you said you lived miles from any town or city, and yet the uncertainty leads rather to the hopeful side, for without knowing anything very definitely about it, I suspect that in such a place as you occupy there may be more uniformity of crops than the average. I have a good deal of faith in a big lot of sweet clover, and should count on rather greater uniformity in its performance than in the average of honey-plants.

As to how many colonies you should have to secure an income of \$500, the easiest way is to answer that I don't know. But I'll give you some points upon which an answer would be based. It is possible to have a crop of 100 pounds or more from each colony in a good season. Supposing it was comb honey and you got 15 cents a pound for it, that would be \$15 per colony. It is also possible to have not only no surplus, but to have to spend \$1.00 or more per colony to get the bees through winter and spring. Now averaging the minus dollar with the \$15 gives \$7 per colony, and at that rate it would require a fraction more than 71 colonies to allow an expectation of \$50 annually. There are the figures for you, and I've confidence enough in your abilities as an accountant to see that they're all straight. The old saying is that figures won't lie, but between you and me this is one of the cases in which they will lie egregiously. The fact is, that it isn't an even chance between 100 pounds and a dead failure, but the failure comes oftener than the hundred pounds, and when it isn't a failure it's more likely to be a low figure than somewhere near the hundred mark.

To make something of a guess guided by what has been for a few years past, I should say that instead of 71 you would need from 150 to 200. I'm afraid that would be rather more work than you ought to undertake. I said there would be no trouble on the score of strength, providing you were sure of good crops every year. For in that case you'd need to keep less than 100 colonies. I think you might take care of that many, but more than a hundred might swamp you.

Now I haven't given you a very satisfactory answer, but you see it's a good deal like saying how many fish you can catch daily in the Chicago river. Your plan of starting with two or three colonies to make the trial is the eminently wise one.

Wants Crimson Clover Seed.

I wish a sample package of your crimson clover seed, and a price-list telling how you sell it. I am thinking about going into the bee-business, and if so I will sow a large field of it.

Longtown, Minn.

R. R. P.

ANSWER.—Bless your heart, I haven't any seed to sell, or anything else of the various things I write about that beekeepers use. But you'll find crimson clover seed at the seed-stores almost anywhere. I think it has also been advertised in the bee-papers. [No doubt very soon there will appear in the advertising columns of the Bee Journal, notices from various seed-firms, to whom all should apply if you desire anything in the seed line.—EDITORS.]

Two Questions and Two Guesses.

I use the dovetail hive with Hoffman self-spacing frames. I packed my bees in dry leaves about the middle of November, by making a rough box large enough to hold three hives, putting a strong colony on each outside and a nucleus in the center, setting them close together. The box was large enough to pack three or four inches of leaves between it and the hives. There is a tunnel at the entrances of the hives.

1. A week or ten days after I packed my bees, I found one of the queens dead on the alighting-board in front of the hive. What caused her death?

2. One of my neighbors had a large colony of bees, and he found them all dead a few days ago. They were on the summer stands, and had lots of honey. What caused their death?

Wallaceton, Pa., Dec. 31.

E. B. T.

ANSWERS.—1. This is another of those questions which can only be answered by a guess without more particulars. It's very much like giving a doctor a question like this: "A man was found dead on Jan. 5, in Chicago. What caused his death?" The manner of packing may and may not have had something to do with the queen's death. For if the entrances

were very close together, and especially if the position of the hives at the time of packing was so changed as to throw bees into the wrong hives, then the strange bees may have had something to do with the death of the queen.

2. Another conundrum to be answered only by a guess. One of the most probable guesses is that the colony was queenless, and without the owner's having noticed it, it had gradually become reduced in numbers until almost all gone, and then the first cold-snap finished the few very old bees that were left.

Bees Throwing Out their Young.

In September I had a colony of bees that would carry out the young ones of their hive, some of them being dead and some alive. What was the cause?

G. E. L.

Morocco, Ind.

ANSWER.—It might be the work of worms. The worms burrow their way along the base of the cells, and in digging after them the bees throw out the brood and young bees. Probably the brood is injured by the worms, and that of itself would make the bees throw it out.

A Queen that Left the Hive in Winter Out-Doors.

I was puzzled yesterday, while passing through my apiary, when I noticed the hive-cover had been left on the ground, and on it was my best golden Italian queen (a clipped one). She was cold and unable to crawl. She had been out all night in a heavy rain and wind. I recognized her as the queen of hive No. 6, by the manner in which I had clipped her wing. I had not handled her hive for several days, and cannot account for her leaving the hive. Her colony is a good one, with plenty of stores. I put the queen back into her hive, and the bees balled her immediately. This was at 9 a.m., Dec. 24. At sundown I looked after her, and saw she was yet in a ball of bees. At 9 a.m. to-day (Dec. 25) I found her all right. Have you any idea why she left the hive? SUBSCRIBER.

ANSWER.—I don't know. If any of the brethren or sisters know, such an one will please take the floor.

Several Eggs in a Cell—Queens Carrying Foul Brood—Hive and Frame Dimensions.

1. I wish to know what is the matter, or what caused the queens in two of my colonies to lay five or six eggs in one cell when there was plenty of room in the brood-nest. Was she too old? She was not a drone-layer, for what eggs hatched and matured produced workers, and the queens were nice, large ones. I have several good bee-books, and can't find a case like it described.

2. Will I have to requeen them in the spring?

3. Do you think queens from foul-broody colonies would carry the disease?

4. What are the dimensions of the inside of the standard Langstroth hive, and the length of the top-bar of the Hoffman brood-frame?

D. E. D.

Whittington, Ind.

ANSWERS.—1. With just the light you give on the case I should suspect that there were too few bees to cover enough brood to suit the queen. She will not lay outside of the space covered by the bees, and if the bees are too few there is nothing but for her to lay a second time in the same cell.

2. If the plurality of eggs in a cell came from the small number of bees, it's rather an indication of a good queen, and no indication that she should be replaced.

3. I think no one has yet reported a case in which the disease was carried by the queen, and a number of cases have been reported in which a queen from a foul-broody colony was given to a healthy colony with no bad results. That's pretty strong evidence, if not entirely conclusive, that the disease will not be carried by a queen.

4. I suppose the dovetail is as nearly a standard Langstroth as anything, and the inside measure of that is 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, and 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep. The top-bar of Hoffman frame is 19 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

I firmly believe that better results can be obtained where bees swarm, than would be the case if we could breed out the swarming trait.—DOOLITTLE.



Liquefying Honey in Packages.

R. C. Alkin says in *Progressive*: "My experiments have proven that honey can very easily and successfully be liquefied by dry heat, and without any very complicated fixtures. Jelly-glasses, jars, bottles, pails, or any kind of vessel, labels and all, may be put into an oven or hot chamber and liquefied without damage. I see no reason why we may not have a cheap sealing retail package, the honey put into it from the extractor, and never again opened till it is wanted for the table. The hot chamber can be used by large producers and by commission-houses to melt for those who so desire it; but I see no reason why the near future may not see the consumer doing his own liquefying, having printed instructions with each can. With such a plan, the honey could be put into shape for the retail trade at once upon extracting, the packages put into a hot-air chamber if desired to be kept liquid, or there restored again to liquid state when marketed."

New Weed Process of Sheeting Wax for Foundation.

This is proving to be a great success. Yes, the new machine feeds a continuous sheet of wax, any thickness, from between a set of dies or parallel bars to any desired length—a mile long—without stopping, if need be. In practice, however, the wax is rolled up upon bobbins holding about 25 pounds. These bobbins are then set in a set of bearings (in a vat of warm water), just back of the foundation-machine. The free end of the sheet is fed into the rolls, and, presto! the whole bobbin of sheeted wax can be reeled off without stopping the mill. In practice, however, again, the foundation-mill reels off a length, and stops where the sheet is cut off. A pressure of the foot applies the power, starts the mill, and more is reeled off, and cut to the desired length. We have our plans laid, however, to run the wax through the mill, the whole 25 pounds, without stopping. An automatic cutting-off device will then in the meantime cut the sheets up into the required lengths.

This is not all. A new and better product is secured. The wax, besides being of an absolutely even thickness, is much more beautiful and transparent. Indeed, some of it, even before it is milled, looks almost as transparent and beautiful as rock candy. Nor is this all—it is tougher and yet more pliable.—Gleanings.

Bee-Keeping in England.

My opinion is that bee-keeping will, in a few years' time, resolve itself into a specialty here as in America, rather than in a wide-spread application of modern methods. The trend of things commercial lies in that direction, and honey-producing will follow suit. Trade demands are also engendering the output of a uniform article. In the past, producers of a few pounds of honey had a difficulty in selling, whereas larger quantities have been salable when a regular supply of uniform quality can be depended on by the trader. This has been my experience.—Wm. Woodley, in *British Bee Journal*.

Fixing Prices in the Home Market.

G. M. Doolittle gives some excellent advice about marketing honey, among other things advising to sell in the home market if you can get within a cent a pound of what it will bring you when shipped, on commission. For the benefit of some, it may be well to mention the exceptional cases that sometimes occur when there is a failure of the crop in your own locality. Suppose your home market requires 5,000 pounds, and you have secured only 2,000 pounds, and no other is to be had nearer than the city market. Looking at the market reports you find it quoted at 14 cents. Deducting freight and commission you find you will have less than 13 cents left; considering all risks as to breakage, etc., you will do well to count that a cent less; or 12 cents in your home market will be as well as, or better, than to ship to the city. So you sell your 2,000 pounds at home for \$240. The

merchants of your town must send to the city for an additional 3,000 pounds, and freight and risk is such that it costs them, besides the 14 cents paid in the city, an additional cent or more. Indeed, they would rather pay 15 cents cash, delivered at the store, than to send to the city. Is there any justice in paying 15 cents for the 3,000 pounds, and giving you only 12 for the 2,000? I don't see any reason why you should not have the 15 cents, and thus put \$60 more in your pocket. So when the crop is such that your home market must be partly supplied from the city market, you should get in your home market at least the full amount of the price quoted in the city market.—Dr. C. C. Miller, in *Gleanings*.

It Pays to Use Plenty of Foundation.

In the honey season, and in the same day, if you take the three first swarms, each weighing about six pounds, and put one in an empty hive, another in a hive filled with foundation, and the third in a hive filled with nice, bright combs, to which a half story of choice combs is to be added, about how much extracted honey would you get from each colony in the first 12 days, if the season was a good one? This question can be answered better after some fair testing has been done. In the meantime I will make a guess and say, nothing from the colony that had all its own combs to make; 20 pounds from the one that had its hive filled with foundation, and 45 pounds from the colony furnished with plenty of combs. The colony with its combs made out of foundation would be worth \$1.25 more for real business every year than one that made its own sort of combs.—Wm. McEvoy, in *Canadian Bee Journal*.

Upward Ventilation Not Needed.

F. A. Gemmill, in *Canadian Bee Journal*, after speaking of the usual wintering plans says: "The above arrangement was for some years practiced by myself, until by degrees the clean or new quilt was abandoned and the old propolized one allowed to remain; it being composed of thick cotton-duck, and as a general thing completely coated with propolis to the extent that it might be considered water-proof.

"Gradually, however, even those quilts were becoming less and less used, especially on colonies worked for comb honey, and the flat wood cover with the bee-space underneath used in their stead. The packing being spread over and above this cover in the same manner as above the quilts.

"Fearing that a solid sealed cover (as near as the bees could make it so) would be a detriment, I in some instances loosened them, and also left a $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch space at the back end, so that the moisture could find exit through the leaves above.

"Experimenting in the direction indicated, I soon found that a clean quilt was not a necessity, nor was anything at all required but the wood cover, and that did not have to be disturbed, as if upward ventilation was actually necessary, that such a cover with 10 inches of forest leaves on top permitted all that appeared requisite.

Artificial Bee-Pasture.

When the drought seasons began, farmers tried to supply their bees with pasture by sowing Alsike clover and buckwheat. While Alsike and red clover have helped the bee-business along to a large extent, until the severe drought of 1893-94 had finished up this business, buckwheat has not secreted nectar in Iowa for the last four years, as I have made examination; in fact, I have made this a study in Pennsylvania, where the writer was born and kept bees. Buckwheat was the main fall crop for bees, while Iowa soil and buckwheat are no good. My first experience was made in good faith by furnishing a lot of seed to a farmer not far from my apiary; he was to have the crop of buckwheat, and I was to take or have the honey the bees might gather from it. Of course I was very anxious for the farmer to sow every foot of ground he could prepare and felt very enthusiastic of my prospects, as I had full confidence of a large honey crop, but my hopes were blasted—not a pound was gathered. Other tests have I made with much the same result. I do not know of anything, nor would I recommend anything, that could be profitably planted for bees, unless alfalfa or lucerne. This might in some localities, but I doubt whether it would prove profitable in Iowa. Sweet clover is a good honey-secreting plant, and will stand the drought and cold weather in Iowa, and were it of much use for anything but honey, perhaps it might be profitably cultivated in almost any State. What may spring up we do not know, but the bee-business is not now on the booming side of a livelihood.—J. W. Bittenbender, in *Agricultural Epitomist*.

See "Bee-Keeper's Guide" offer on page 64.

OLDEST BEE PAPER IN AMERICA

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

A Free Bee-Book.—Gleanings for Jan. 1, makes favorable mention of Government Bulletin No. 1, entitled, "The Honey-Bee: a Manual of Instruction in Apiculture." By Frank Benton. It was to be ready for distribution by the Department of Agriculture in a few days at 15 cents per copy; stamps not taken. Editor Root speaks very highly of it. So far we have seen nothing of it.

The Bee-Keepers' Union Report will be found on page 59 of this number of the Bee Journal. Mr. Newman always gets out a very interesting "annual message," showing the results of the conflicts of the year preceding, and the financial condition of the Union. This latter is in good shape, as will be seen—so that those who paid their dues for 1895 will not need to pay any for 1896, unless it is found necessary later on, which, in all probability, will not be the case.

Read that 11th Annual Report, and then if you are not now a member of the Union, send your \$1.00 to the General Manager—Thomas G. Newman, 147 South Western Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Selling Honey on Commission.—We have just been talking with the head of what we consider the largest firm of Chicago honey-dealers, about selling honey on commission. We asked particularly about the amount or per cent. charged for handling honey, and his reply was, that on a shipment which sells for less than \$100 gross, their rule was to charge 10 per cent. On any shipment selling for over \$100, they deduct 5 per cent. for their commission. We believe this is about right.

The gentleman referred to above, agreed with us in thinking Chicago the principal honey-distributing point in this country. As nearly as we are able to learn (and we believe it is not far out of the way), since the season for shipping honey opened for 1895, there have been shipped to the Chicago market up to this time, about 60 carloads. That means about 600 tons, or 1,200,000 pounds of honey. And that would be only about one pound for each person living in Chicago! Surely that one pound wouldn't last very long—

say probably a week. Then something like 50 times this amount might be consumed here every year, if it were properly distributed among the people.

Bee-keepers have a great work ahead of them, if the public is ever to be educated to use honey as it deserves to be used. Let every one do his share to popularize the consumption of the best sweet known—honey.

"Satisfaction Guaranteed."—While many are preparing advertisements for the new year, we wish to give them a *hint*. It should be the *aim* of all supply dealers and queen-breeders to give entire satisfaction to all of their customers, by giving "value received" for every dollar sent to them for goods—but no one can guarantee that every customer will be satisfied. Will those interested "take the hint," and endeavor to avoid complaints by "doing unto others" just as you would have them do to you? That "rule" is "worth its weight in gold." No wonder, for 'tis but the "Golden Rule." Resolve that it shall be the "rule" of your life this year. You will be happier, and so will all with whom you meet or do business.

Honey-Production in Germany.—An exchange says that it should be noted that in Germany little comb honey is produced, there being for the greater part no market for it. From the hives with fixed combs the best honey that is obtained is what is called "run honey," and it approaches extracted honey very nearly in quality. The crushed combs are placed in a sieve or a trough, and the honey permitted to run off. What remains is gently heated and strained. Extracted honey and "run honey" are sold on the average for 25 cents per pound, the "strained honey" 12 to 13 cents per pound. Come honey and extracted are the same in price. The honey is gathered chiefly from fruit-bloom, rape, esparcette, acacia or honey-locust, linden, corn-flower, etc.

Mr. Sutherland's Apiary, so nicely shown on the first page of this number, was photographed in August, 1895. Mr. S. writes this about it:

In the foreground you will see my wife, daughter and myself, while farther back is my son sitting in the buggy. On the left a portion of the house is shown; next is the wood-house, then the top of the barn is seen over the peach-trees, while at the right is the poultry-house.

I was born in Bainbridge, Mich., Oct. 10, 1851, and with the exception of a few months at a time I have always lived within the township. I first began bee-keeping in 1873, in company with my brother-in-law, with a few colonies, and increased to 30, then lost all with dysentery in the winter of 1875. In the fall of 1883 I found two bee-trees, transferred the bees into hives, and those, with two others, died in the winter of 1884. Then I was without bees until July 7, 1889, when a run-away swarm settled on a tree in the front yard. I hived them, and bought one colony in the spring. I have 20 colonies now, after selling 10.

In 1885 a man moved here with an apiary; he was taking another bee-paper, in which I found the advertisement of the American Bee Journal, for which I then subscribed. I should not know what to do without the Bee Journal now.

HENRY SUTHERLAND.

Selling Another's Honey.—In regard to what has appeared in the Bee Journal for Oct. 17, 1895, page 675, and in a recent number, Dr. Miller has this to say:

In the Question-Box was asked a question, some of the answers to which might be understood as intimating, if not plainly stating, that it was all right to buy other people's honey and sell it as honey produced in your own apiary. It was a mistake to answer without noting more clearly the bearing of the question, for when carefully examined the question asks: "Would it be right" "to make my customers believe" a thing that is not true? Put just in that shape perhaps not one in the lot would have answered in the affirm-

ative, and evidently the majority so understood it, as they answered in the negative.

Then the racy reviewer of the Review preached a sermon upon it, and made a mistake in making just the deductions and applications he did upon his text, or at least in making his statements so that a man usually so clear-headed as B. Taylor could make the mistake of saying to Hasty, on page 20, "You hold up to the public gaze seven of your brother bee-keepers to the charge of Rascal." For it is a mistake to understand that Hasty calls those seven men rascals. Then it was a mistake for Mr. Taylor to go to calling names just because he thought some one else was doing it. For that has no bearing on the case. Finally, the editor, on page 24, makes the same mistake as some of the repliers in misapprehending the question. He speaks of the correctness of the "advice to buy and sell another bee-keeper's honey when your own crop is all disposed of." Of course, that's all right, Mr. Editor, but that isn't at all the point upon which the questioner asks light, unless I am making a mistake bigger than that made by any one else. If I at all understand the question, it is this: "Would it be right for me to buy honey from others and sell it, provided I should put my name on it and make my customers believe it is from my apiary?"

Mr. Hasty having finished his sermon, let me add a short exhortation: Brethren, bee-keepers are, in the main, a pretty good set of men, and mean to do about the straight thing. Like others, they sometimes make mistakes, and it's all right to speak out and speak the truth, but please don't forget the injunction about "speaking the truth in love."

C. C. MILLER.

Replying to the question in your second paragraph, we should say: No, sir; it is not right to deceive under any circumstances. No bee-keeper need try to make customers believe the bought honey came from his own apiary, for any reasonable customer wouldn't care a fig where the honey came from, so long as he was satisfied of its purity. We are willing to say again, and over and over, that it is the proper thing for bee-keepers to buy honey to supply their customers, when their crop is all disposed of. If customers ask about the honey, tell them the truth, of course; if they don't care enough to ask about it, we say: Go ahead, and sell them all the good, pure honey you can get them to eat.

Good Word for the Bee-Papers.—Somnambulist, who writes so charmingly for the Progressive Bee-Keeper, had this to say lately:

Friends, have you noted the efforts that the different editors of the several bee-journals are and have been making to give us acceptable and attractive matter? Regardless of the generable hard times financially, and the especial hard times apiculturally—in the face of business failure, north, east, south and west, undaunted they stand at their posts and issue to us just as much in quantity, and of just as good quality, as when times were at their best. These thoughts were forced upon me while noting the rounding-up numbers of 1895.

Thank you, Sammy. We believe if all the bee-keepers, regardless of all discouragements, would help the bee-papers as enthusiastically as their publishers are trying to do their duty, every bee-paper would have twice as large a list of subscribers as they now have. But we don't complain, for our friends have been very good to us and the American Bee Journal, and we sincerely appreciate it. And we have such confidence in them that we believe they will yet do more for the "Old Reliable" and its publishers.

The Vermont State Convention will be held Jan. 29 and 30, 1896, at the Van Ness House, in Burlington. It will be the 21st annual convention. A splendid program has been arranged. Reduced hotel and railroad rates. Better go, if you can. Address C. W. Fisher, Secretary, 97 Cherry St., Burlington, Vt., for further information.

Every Present Subscriber of the Bee Journal should be an agent for it, and get all others possible to subscribe for it.

Southern Department

CONDUCTED BY

DR. J. P. H. BROWN, AUGUSTA, GA.

[Please send all questions relating to bee-keeping in the South direct to Dr. Brown, and he will answer in this department.—Eds.]

Report of the International Bee-Keepers' Congress at Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 4 and 5, 1895.

(Continued from page 43.)

Mrs. L. Harrison, Peoria, Ill., read the following essay on

Bee-Keeping for Women.

How many women say to themselves, "O if I could only earn some money, and spend it just as I want to, without having to give an account of it! If I could earn the money myself I would take a little recreation—go to the sea-shore or the mountains, and get something new to think about."

A lady who had traveled the world over, and had everything she desired that money would buy, was asked what had given her the greatest pleasure; she replied: "A few dollars that I once earned." Representative women from different sections of this great land of ours would have been present with us to-day could they have earned the necessary funds.

There are many avenues of emolument open to young women; they are teachers, bookkeepers, typewriters, and many find employment in manufacturing-plants. The number of occupations open to women have increased from 70 to more than 500 in less than 40 years. The want is something that home-keepers can do to earn money. There was a wide field open to the ingenuity of our grandmothers. They spun wool, cotton and flax, dyed and wove, cut and made garments, but now the inventive genius of man has superseded this with nimble-fingered machinery. Butter and cheese are made at factories. The ever busy mind of woman must now seek other avenues for the exercise of her faculties.

There is much more in a colony of bees than the honey and wax they represent. They offer to any intelligent and inquisitive mind a rich field of thought. Nature is rich in resources, and the honey-bees are in close relation with it. Sex in plants is now attracting more attention than formerly, and bees act as marriage-priests; while gathering the pollen to make the bee-bread for their brood, they disseminate the father dust from flower to flower. The cultivation of the honey-bee opens up a new world to a woman of inquiring mind, for every plant that grows possesses new interest to her, for it may mean dollars and cents to her purse. The little, modest white clover, wherever it rears its head, is petted and caressed, as it holds within its petals nectar, fit food for the gods. There is a lesson to be learned from the inmates of the hive.

"So work the honey-bee—
Creatures, that by a rule in Nature teach
The art of order to a peopled kingdom."

The government of a colony of bees is all in the hands of the females, and a woman may gain inspiration by its study as to how best to manage her household. When the young bee issues from its cell, weak and downy, it has not strength to roam the fields, and carry heavy loads of honey and pollen—it is then given the care of the young, to feed and nourish; digest the food and feed the queen and drones; secrete wax and build the comb; and is daily given a play-spell in the open air to locate its hive, and gain strength for the heavy labors of the field.

The office of the queen is no sinecure, as she lays at her best 3,000 eggs a day, and, let her reproductive powers fail, her throne is given to another, for their law is like that of the Medes and Persians, which change not—the greatest good to the greatest number.

Bee-culture opens an avenue for woman which has long been a want, as it gives to her the means of acquiring money in the retirement of her home, and at the same time look after the comfort of her household. Bee-culture requires no great outlay of strength at any one time; but to be a success there must be a faithful performance of many little items. Any

woman who can make a perfect loaf of bread can, having a good location, make bee-culture a success, as she realizes the importance of performing all the manipulations of the colony at the exact time.

Bee-culture requires no outlay for land upon which to raise crops, for as yet there has been no plant discovered that pays to plant for honey alone. The honey-bee is a benefactor to our race, roaming the fields at will gathering honey and pollen, which it pays for in the fertilization of the flowers. She takes nothing from the fertility of the soil, but gives to it one of the greatest fertilizers known—the clovers—which would become extinct if it were not for her agency in fertilizing the bloom. No land is required except a spot on which to place the hives. I knew a poor woman who occupied the second story of a tenement in a large city, and had no place to set her hives except upon a slanting roof. Her few hives, kept under such disadvantages, added materially to her slender income. I know of another lady who invested \$600 in bees, hives, and patented fixtures, who realized nothing for her expenditure. She had read a sensational story of a fortune being made in bee-keeping, and invested her means without knowledge, and entrusted the care of her apiary to a person who knew nothing of bees, but that "they stung and gathered honey." Bee-culture is a science requiring study and thought.

Women have made a success in bee-culture, and what woman has done woman can do. Two young women attending a boarding school suddenly found themselves thrown upon their own resources. Their father's fortune had flown, and with it his mind. In a log house, upon a little clearing in Michigan woods they engaged in bee-culture, and from its source supported their invalid parents, and obtained means of erecting a good home, surrounded not only with the comforts, but the elegancies of life.

Mrs. Sherman, a grand, noble woman of Texas, left a widow with an only son, reared and educated him, at the same time caring for an aged father by the culture of bees and poultry.

Women of the South, of education and means, would do much good by engaging in bee-culture, and interesting less favored women in its pursuit. It is a panacea for those in feeble health, taking them out into the open air, where, basking in the glorious sunshine amid flowers and the happy hum of industry, they will forget their aches and pains. When they uncover a colony of bees, and breathe in the aroma arising from thousands of flowers, they will take on new life, forget to worry and fret, singing instead, "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow."

In conclusion, to the agriculturist and horticulturist, I would say, Remember that the busy little bee is your friend and co-worker. She is trebly a benefactor—she causeth many blades of grass (I use the word in its broadest sense) to grow where none grew before; she multiplieth our fruits; she gathereth the richest of nectar to tickle our palates, and sooth our lungs; she toileth early and late, and at the close of her brief but useful life, she asketh neither grave nor monument. Let a grateful people write her obituary.

MRS. L. HARRISON.

BEESWAX PRODUCTION—TALL VS. SQUARE SECTIONS.

At the present price of honey and beeswax, would it not be profitable to produce beeswax as a primary product of the apiary? A. F. Brown said with honey at 5 cents and wax at 25 cents, it will pay to produce wax.

What advantage, if any, has a tall section over a square one? This question was discussed at length in the affirmative by Mr. Danzenbaker. He contended you could get more honey from tall sections than square ones, because they embraced more space; the bees enter them more readily; the combs built are more secure; and they command a better price in the market.

FREIGHT RATE ON EXTRACTED HONEY.

At the evening session the first question taken up was: "Should the freight rate on extracted honey be higher than on syrup? If not, what may we do to have them put on a par in this line?"

It was moved and carried that a committee of three be appointed to wait upon the railroad companies in reference to rates on honey. W. S. Hart, A. F. Brown and N. G. Osteen were put on the committee.

SHIPPING AND PRODUCTION OF EXTRACTED HONEY.

The discussion of the above question drifted to the best receptacle for shipping extracted honey. Mr. O. O. Poppleton stated that the barrels should be made out of cypress and waxed or paraffined. The amount of honey that soaks into unwaxed barrels would pay the cost of waxing. Only about a

pound of paraffine is required. The barrel must be thoroughly seasoned, and made hot in the sun or by artificial heat; the hoops driven up tight. The waxing material must be poured in hot and the hole closed. The hot wax expands the air which forces the wax into all the little holes. The barrel must be rolled over and turned around so all the inside gets covered. If the barrel is dry and hot, the wax will not peel off.

The next question was: "In working for extracted honey what is the best way to keep brood from the combs in the second story?" Some one answered that the brood did not interfere, and was not thrown out when large extractors were used and care taken.

The following resolution was offered by N. G. Osteen, and seconded by W. S. Hart:

To the Honorable Secretary of Agriculture:—

The International Congress of bee-keepers, composed of representatives from ten different States of the Union, in session at Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 4 and 5, 1895, after discussion of the needs of apiculture in the line of investigation and explanation, and having come to the conclusion that the United States Department of Agriculture can very materially aid us, respectfully petition and recommend the establishment of a Division of Apiculture in the Department of Agriculture, charged with such investigations as might be expected to aid and develop this industry in the United States.

The resolution was unanimously carried. It was the consensus of the Congress that bee-keepers should write their representatives at Washington, urging them to act in concert with the resolution.

The report of the committee on resolutions was as follows:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Congress are due the Mayor and Board of Trade of this city for the use of their very comfortable and convenient Council Chamber for our meetings; to the papers of Atlanta for publishing notices of our meetings, and a synopsis of the proceedings of the several sessions. Be it further

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due our officers for the able conduct of our meetings, and particularly are they due our worthy president, Dr. J. P. H. Brown, who first conceived the idea of holding this Congress, and who has been the chief worker in perfecting plans and arrangements for its successful carrying out.

A. I. ROOT,
O. O. POPPLETON, } Committee.
J. D. FOOSHE,

A New Binder for holding a year's numbers of the American Bee Journal, we propose to mail, postpaid, to every subscriber who sends us 20 cents. It is called "The Wood Binder," is patented, and is an entirely new and very simple arrangement. Full printed directions accompany each Binder. Every reader should get it, and preserve the copies of the Bee Journal as fast as they are received. Why not begin with Jan. 1 to save them? They are invaluable for reference, and at the low price of the Binder you can afford to get it yearly.

If any one desires two of the Binders—one for 1895 and one for 1896—send 30 cents, and they will be mailed to you.

Honey as Food and Medicine.—A new and revised edition of this 32-page pamphlet is now issued. It has 5 blank pages on which to write or paste recipes taken from other sources. It is just what its name indicates, and should be liberally distributed among the people everywhere to create a demand for honey. It contains a number of recipes on the use of honey as food and as medicine, besides much other interesting and valuable information. Prices, postpaid, are: Single copy, 5 cts.; 10 copies 35 cts.; 50 for \$1.25; 100 for \$2.00. Better give them a trial. Send all orders to the Bee Journal office.

Back Numbers.—We have on hand a few back numbers of the Bee Journal for 1895, which we will mail to any one wishing them at 15 copies for 20 cents. They will all be different dates, but we have no complete sets for the year. Just send us 20 cents in stamps or silver, and we'll send you 15 copies. No doubt there are many new subscribers who will be glad to take advantage of this offer. All new subscriptions now begin with Jan. 1, 1896.

The Names and Addresses of all your bee-friends, who are not now taking the Bee Journal, are wanted at this office. Send them in, please, when sample copies will be mailed to them. Then you can secure their subscriptions, and earn some of the premiums we have offered. The next few months will be just the time to easily get new subscribers. Try it earnestly, at least.

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Is our present stock for this year's sales of Foundation. But still **We Want More Beeswax** and pay a good price.

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Bee-Keeper's Guide.

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Individual Right to manufacture and use, 50 cents; Township Rights, \$1.00; County Rights, \$5.00.

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11th Annual Report for the Year 1895

OF THE

National Bee-Keepers' Union.

For eleven years "The National Bee-Keepers' Union" has existed for the honorable purpose of defending bee-keepers in their rights, and maintaining the privileges guaranteed to them by constitutional enactments—and I may add thankfully, without boasting, that every case has been tried upon its merits, settled by compromise, or otherwise disposed of, so that it begins the year 1896 with a clear field and a glorious record of achievements, unparalleled in the history of any similar organization in modern times!

Since my last Report was published, the Union has lost one of its first and most honored members, who was also known and revered by the Apiarists of the whole World—the Rev. L. L. Langstroth. He passed to the "life beyond" last October, fully prepared for the change, and entered "the home over there" with a heart full of love to all, and being also beloved by many thousands in both spheres of existence.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

up to the time of closing the polls, on February 1, 1895, showed that 151 ballots were recorded, as follows:

FOR PRESIDENT—

The canvass of all the votes received
Hon. R. L. Taylor, 126; Dr. C. C. Miller, 5; G. M. Doolittle, 4; Hon. Eugene Secor, 3; A. I. Root, 2; Scattering and blanks, 11. Total, 151.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Dr. C. C. Miller, 114; G. M. Doolittle, 113; Prof. A. J. Cook, 102; A. I. Root, 101; G. W. Demaree, 77; Hon. Eugene Secor, 38; C. P. Dadant, 31; C. F. Muth, 22; P. H. Elwood, 16; G. W. Brodbeck, 14; G. W. York, 11; E. R. Root, 7; Hon. R. L. Taylor, 7; Mrs. Jennie Atchley, 6; Hon. James Heddon, 6; W. Z. Hutchinson, 4; S. I. Freeborn, 3; R. F. Holtermann, 3; Frank Benton, 2; C. W. Dayton, 2; H. G. Acklin, 2; Scattering, 17.

FOR GENERAL MANAGER, SEC. AND TREAS.

Thomas G. Newman, 149. Blank, 2. Total, 151.

These ballots were arranged alphabetically, tied up and preserved for a year for inspection, as all former ones have been.

Although several had expressed their desire for a change in the officers, the members decided to keep the management in the same hands for another year.

As Mr. G. W. Demaree, Vice-President for 10 years—positively declined to act—desiring a change in the "official board," this elected Hon. Eugene Secor, who received the next highest number of votes.

WORK OF THE YEAR.

COLUMBUS, MISSOURI.

Last May, J. W. Bradley wrote as follows: "I am sued for maintaining a nuisance, against the dignity of the State. I have 20 colonies of bees, and a man living near me says that they stung him, so he made the charge. Please tell me what to do."

I sent him instructions what to do, and forwarded a dozen copies of the Arkansas Decision of the Supreme

Court. But some one interested (in the local postoffice, probably) stole the pamphlets and substituted an old newspaper in the wrapper, before delivery. Then I sent more in a sealed letter in a plain envelope. These were duly received, for it was too serious a matter to intercept letters, and thus call down the penalties of the United States law for so doing.

When the case was called for trial, the prosecuting attorney asked for more time, because he stated that he was not ready to go to trial. The defendant was ready and demanded a jury trial. The other side weakened, offered to settle, and finally induced Mr. Bradley to consent, which he reluctantly did. This was a mistake which he regretted ever since, because they would have been badly beaten.

WINSTON, NORTH CAROLINA.

Last June, Mr. Efrd wrote to the General Manager as follows: "My neighbors are making complaint, to my detriment, about my bees, and as a member of the Union, I desire to have your advice as to how to proceed in the matter. It seems that I have done about everything in my power to satisfy them, but they are not yet satisfied, and seem about to take action against me, unless I will dispose of them entirely, and I do not think it at all necessary, as my bees are very much closer to me than to any of my neighbors. My children and people are not annoyed with them. If the Union can sustain me in keeping them, it is my desire to have its assistance; but, at the same time, I stand more than ready to do anything in reason for the comfort and satisfaction of my neighbors."

The Manager of the Union armed Mr. Efrd with its documents, to fire at those in authority in Winston, and directed him to select the "best attorney" in that locality to attend to the case for the Union. That cannon was promptly fired, and the Winstonians now rest in peace, as well as the bees.

FAIRFAX, MISSOURI.

Joseph W. Blevins had about 45 colonies of bees, in Fairfax, Mo. Some of his neighbors, being envious of his success, had two ordinances presented at the City Council, declaring the keeping of bees a public nuisance. The first imposed a fine of from \$1.00 to \$100.00 for keeping bees within the corporate limits. This was passed but was not thought to be strong enough, and another was passed, making it a separate offense with a penalty of \$100.00 for every week that colonies of bees were found in that city, and authorizing the Street Commissioners to remove them, etc.

This was in direct violation of the Constitution of the United States, and the General Manager of the Union directed Mr. Blevins to distribute copies of the Decision of the Supreme Court of Arkansas to the Mayor and Councilmen, and employ an attorney to defend his rights. This was done and the ordinance was promptly repealed. The masterly argument of Judge Williams was too strong and overwhelming to give them a foothold. They saw it at once and surrendered gracefully.

WEST BRANCH, MICHIGAN.

The Village Council attempted to pass an ordinance, declaring the keeping of bees, a nuisance, subjecting the owner to a fine. Mr. Shrigley had 107 colonies, and two envious neighbors intended to "complain" under the ordinance if passed, and compel the removal of the bees.

The Manager counselled Mr. S. what to do, and instructed him to employ a lawyer to prevent the passage of the ordinance, supplying him with copies of the Arkansas Decision, and that action ended the trouble.

NELSONVILLE, OHIO.

Here, Dr. Cabel introduced a bill in the City Council to prohibit the keeping of bees within the corporate limits, and in a vehement speech denounced bee-keeping, declaring it a nuisance.

Mr. Rosser's apiary is at the edge of the city-limits, about one-half mile from the business center, and he said that they were in no sense a nuisance to any one. Other bees to the number of 50 colonies were similarly situated there, and if the ordinance should pass, trouble generally would ensue. Prompt steps were taken and that trouble was averted. Upon receiving the Decision of the Supreme Court of Arkansas, which I sent to Mr. Rosser to distribute to the Mayor and Aldermen, the case was killed. They said that if the Bee-Keepers' Union intended to take it in hand, they would not pass the ordinance. So much for the beneficent influence of the Bee-Keepers' Union.

But to further particularize will, perhaps, be unnecessary. I will, however, briefly say that other principal cases of complaint were located at the following places:


Strawberry, Gentry Co., Missouri.
Utica, La Salle Co., Illinois.
Toronto Junction, Ontario.
Stephens City, Virginia.
Grand Rapids, Michigan.
Connersville, Indiana.
Benton, Franklin Co., Illinois.
Bridgeport, Connecticut.
Elmira, Chemung Co., N. Y.

The General Manager instructed the bee-keepers in each case what to do, and supplied them liberally with the Decision of the Supreme Court of Arkansas, showing that bee-keeping was not a nuisance, *per se*, and could not be legislated against by any corporation, either Village, City, County or State. Where it was deemed essential, a good lawyer was selected and instructed to attend the meetings of the legislative bodies and watch the proposed ordinances, so as to prevent trouble and annoyance to the bee-keepers. These efforts in each case frustrated the designs of the enemies of the pursuit, and settled the disturbance.

The National Bee-Keepers' Union knows no dividing lines of States, Provinces and Territories—

"No pent-up Utica contracts our powers,
The whole unbounded Continent is ours."

The Union defends its members from the assaults of the enemies of the pursuit—no matter where they may happen to reside—if, upon investigation, their lawful rights and

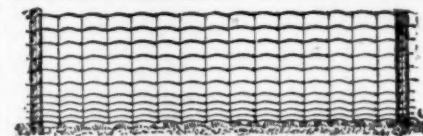


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Being the cleanest is usually worked the quickest of any Foundation made

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Poultry Guide for 1896

Finest book ever published, contains nearly 100 pages, all printed in colors, plans for best poultry houses, sure remedies and recipes for all diseases, and how to make poultry and gardening pay. Sent post paid for 15c. John Bauscher, Jr., box 94 Freeport, Ill.

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GUS DITTMER, AUGUSTA, WIS.

Reference—Augusta Bank. 16Atf

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Simple, Perfect, Self-Regulating. Thousands in successful operation. Lowest priced First-class Hatcher made. GEO. H. STAHL, 114 to 122 S. 6th St., Quincy, Ill.

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PATENT GARDEN HOE [No. 522,872] to let on royalty, or will sell for \$3,000; or will give agent fifty per cent. commission to sell. One person will perform more work with one of the hoes than three with other tools. Very easy to work. Extra blades to replace worn ones. Mention this paper.

J. H. ANDRE, Lockwood, N. Y.

privileges are found to be unjustly assailed.

Besides having collected several bills of long-standing and uncertain value, for honey shipped to commission merchants—furnishing information concerning the time for spraying trees so as to prevent the poisoning of bees—advising what safe use to make of honey which had been exposed to disease in an infected tenement, etc.—I have had to deal with a case where a neighbor threatened to poison the bees in an adjoining lot, by sowing buckwheat and spraying it with parisgreen, so as to kill the bees by wholesale!

By taking prompt action in each case, the Union has prevented much mischief, and rendered valuable service to the pursuit of apiculture.

AMALGAMATION.

As many of the members are aware, it has been proposed to unite the "North American Bee-Keepers' Association" and the "National Bee-Keepers' Union" into one organization. It was expected that the vote on this amalgamation would accompany the vote for officers for 1896, but it is claimed by many members of the Union that the details have not yet been sufficiently discussed. It will be better not to "marry in haste and repent at leisure." The Committee in Charge, after careful consideration, have decided to defer the voting until a later period.

HONEY EXCHANGE WAREHOUSE.

California members propose that the Union should create a Honey Exchange Warehouse in some large city where they "could deal direct with the retailer through the General Manager, and secure to the honey-producer that which he now loses, and also prevent the influx in many places to a degree that would depress prices."

California has a right to be heard on such a matter, for during the past 5 years she has had 110 members in the Union, and to-day nearly one-quarter of the members hail from that State. In fact, California is the principal State in the Bee-Keepers' Union.

But I will offer a few suggestions: Such a Honey Exchange should be located in the very heart of the city selected for it, and be conducted on pure business principles. There must be a financial backing adequate to the business to be done. Shippers will want advances on consignments. Heavy freight bills will have to be provided for, and help and rent will not be small items of expense. It would need several thousands of dollars to start with.

In my opinion, this should be a separate business matter and not be tacked on to the Union. Financial reverses or some unexpected losses, by failure or otherwise, might bankrupt the Union in a short time. Besides, it should be managed by an expert honey-dealer, who should devote his whole time to the business.

DUES FOR THE COMING YEAR.

It now becomes my duty, under the Constitution, to call for the Dues for 1896. But in view of the fact that

"hard times" are upon us, in "dread reality," the Advisory Board, at my suggestion, has decided that as the Union has sufficient funds on hand for present needs, that all members who paid \$1.00 for Dues for 1895 shall have the Dues for 1896 remitted, and they be declared members in good standing for 1896 without further payment, unless such shall be found to be necessary before the end of the year, (which is not at all likely, from present indications). All new members, as well as those who have not paid for 1895 will be required to pay \$1.00 as Dues for 1896. Article IV of the Constitution clearly leaves this matter of raising sufficient funds to the Advisory Board.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Balance, as per last Report...\$783.51
Fees from 242 members 242.00

\$1,025.51

Expenses for the year.....\$254.90

Balance, Dec. 31, 1895....\$770.61
Donation, C. Klock..... 1.00

Total balance on hand....\$771.61

The "Treasury" being in a satisfactory condition, the Union is fortunately in a position to demand justice, and protect the rights of its members in the courts of law. This is a place where "money counts." If the Union was a bankrupt concern, quite powerless to "help in time of need," its influence would be infinitesimal, and itself a laughing-stock for all. The "sinews of war" makes all the difference in the world.

Several more decisions from Supreme Courts are needed as precedents, for the guidance of Judges in lower courts, and these, I hope, will be obtained, covering several important points.

For the first seven years I successfully managed the affairs of the Union without recompense, save in the consciousness of having done my full duty, and of knowing that my services have received the unanimous endorsement of the members at each succeeding election. For the past four years I have received, as a nominal salary, twenty per cent. of the gross receipts, and during the past year that has amounted to a fraction less than 94 cents per week!

Of course such a munificent salary is in no sense a compensation for the time and labor necessary to successfully manage the affairs of the Union, and if it had been simply a business transaction, I should have refused to continue it long ago. The unanimity of my election year after year has alone induced me to continue to act, for I viewed it as a duty—instead of business.

If it shall please the members of the Union now to elect my successor, I shall retire with pleasure and a proud record! Fraternalty yours,

THOS. G. NEWMAN,
General Manager.

Dr. P. C. Gress, of Atchinson, Kans., would like to communicate, confidentially, with all persons who have consigned honey to C. R. Horrie & Co., of Chicago, Ill., with unsatisfactory results.



Disease is an effect, not a cause. Its origin is within; its manifestations without. Hence, to cure the disease the cause must be removed, and in no other way can a cure ever be effected. Warner's SAFE Cure is established on just this principle. It realizes that

95 PER CENT.

of all diseases arise from deranged Kidneys and Liver, and it strikes at once at the root of the difficulty. The elements of which it is composed act directly upon these great organs, both as a food and restorer, and by placing them in a healthy condition, drive disease and pain from the system.

For the innumerable troubles caused by unhealthy Kidneys, Liver and Urinary Organs; for the distressing Disorders of Women; for all Nervous Affections, and physical derangements generally, this great remedy has no equal. Its past record is a guarantee of continued performance.

WARNER'S SAFE CURE CO.,

London, Rochester, Melbourne, Frankfurt, Toronto, Paris.

Mention the American Bee Journal.

Honey & Beeswax Market Quotations.

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 18.—White clover and linden comb honey is scarce and commands a premium over other grades of white of 1 to 3 cents per pound. There is a fair supply of other grades, which bring 12@13c. for white, and amber to dark ranges at 9@11c. Extracted is without special change; the Western ambers at 4½@5c.; white, 5@6c.; clover and basswood in cans and barrels, 6@7c. Beeswax, 28@30c. R. A. B. & Co.

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 20.—We are having good inquiry for fancy comb, but all other grades are selling slow. Dark comb will not sell on this market, and we would advise the producer not to ship it here. We are offering it as low as 9@10c. with no buyers. We quote: Fancy, 15c.; No. 1, 14c.; light amber, 12@13c. Extracted, light, 5@6½c.; dark, 4@5c. Beeswax, 28@30c. J. A. L.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Jan. 3.—Honey has declined in this market during the holidays. Large lots of California honey arriving, and selling at 5c. in 60-lb. cans. We quote: Comb honey, fancy, 16c.; fair to good, 8@14c. Extracted, 4@5½c.; white clover, 10c. Beeswax, 30c. W. A. S.

KANSAS CITY, MO., Jan. 8.—The demand for comb and extracted honey is fair. We quote: No. 1 white comb, 1-lb., 13@14c.; No. 2, 12@13c.; No. 1 amber, 11@12c.; No. 2, 10c. Extracted, white, 6@6½c.; amber, 5@5½c.; dark, 4@4½c. Beeswax, 22@25c. C. C. C. & Co.

Demand is slow for all kinds of honey. Best white comb honey sells at 12@14c. in the jobbing way. Extracted, 4@7c. on arrival. Beeswax is in good demand at 22@27c. for good to choice yellow. C. F. M. & S.

WISCONSIN.—The annual meeting of the Wisconsin State Bee-Keepers' Association will be held Thursday and Friday, Feb. 6 and 7, 1895, in the capitol building at Madison. The program will appear in due time. N. E. FRANCE, Sec. Platteville, Wis.

General Items.

Comb Foundation Without Sidewalls.

I see that B. Taylor advocates foundation without any sidewalls. Now, there seems to be quite a difference in our experiments. The past season I tried about 40 brood-frames with foundation that had no sidewalls, and it did not "pan out" as well with me. Last spring I bought 15 or 16 pounds of foundation, thinking that would be all I would need, but I run short and had to buy some more. One of my neighbors was going over to see a person who had some foundation to sell, and I sent with him for 5 or 6 pounds, and when he showed it to me I told him that I thought the bees would be just as liable to build drone-comb out of it as worker-comb; and so they did. Some of it they worked out all right, into worker-comb, and some they worked into drone-comb. There were a few combs that the bees would work out all right on one side, and not even touch on the other side. Now, I do not know what makes so much difference in our experiments, unless it was that I did not use wire in my frames. Let that be as it may, I shall never try the experiment again. WM. CRAIG. Luce, Mich.

Wintering Bees.

I am making a new hive which I think will be better for Northern bee-keepers, as the winters are so long. I make the frame 15 inches long, and 12 inches deep, inside measure. I am making a few to try, and will report next year.

In 1894 I had 10 good, strong colonies which I wintered on the summer stands, and two colonies left when spring came. With a frame 19 inches long and 9 inches deep, at both ends of the frame it was chock-full of honey, and the bees starved to death in the middle of the frame. They ate to the top and then starved. It was a hard winter on bees, we all know, so I think a deeper frame would winter them better as far north as this.

I have two colonies yet on the summer stands, facing the south, with cornfodder around them, and wheat chaff in the top-box. I got about 40 pounds of comb honey from them this year. It was terribly dry here last summer, but we are getting lots of rain now, and about three inches of snow. WILLIAM DANIELS.

Perrysburg, Ohio, Dec. 8, 1895.

Sweet Clover Honey—Hives.

I had 18 colonies, spring count; had 3 prime swarms, and one that I found which had taken possession of an empty hive. I produced 2,000 pounds of choice comb honey, and 80 pounds of extracted, all, or nearly all, being from sweet clover, which grows on the public roads for several miles in all directions from my bee-yard. Without this honey-plant I think our crop would have been nearly a total failure.

I have sold my entire product at 13 cents, and have had a market for it all. Ten miles south of me there was no sweet clover, and there was not much honey, either. If sweet clover is cut at different dates it puts out new shoots and blooms again in a short time. Some of my neighbors mowed the roads opposite their land three times during the season, and in this way we had a continual honey-flow until frost. I did not have one section of dark honey.

I observe that some bee-keepers extract unfinished sections, and use the combs the next season. I used to practice that method, but do not do so any more, as the honey stored in the combs once used, with me, was never first-class the next season. Now I cut out the combs, melt them for wax, and use the sections for kindling wood.

I use mostly a large hive, 10-frame Lang-

List of Honey and Beeswax Dealers.

Most of whom Quote in this Journal.

Chicago, Ills.

R. A. BURNETT & Co., 163 South Water Street.

New York, N. Y.

F. I. SAGE & SON, 183 Reade Street.
HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELKEN,
120 & 122 West Broadway.
CHAS. ISRAEL & BROS., 486 Canal St.

Kansas City, Mo.

C. C. CLEMOMS & Co., 423 Walnut St.

Buffalo, N. Y.

BATTERSON & Co., 167 & 169 Scott St.

Hamilton, Ills.

CHAS. DADANT & SON.

Philadelphia, Pa.

WM. A. SELSER, 10 Vine St.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

C. F. MUTH & SON, cor. Freeman & Central avs.

For Sale, Bees and Honey

I will sell 285 Colonies of Italian and Hybrid Bees in 8-L-frame hives, all in cellars in good condition Jan. 15; and certainly in the best basswood region in North America. Would also sell a like number of Extracting-Hives and Combs, 3 Extractors, etc. My outfit is mostly new, hives well made and painted, all uniform and interchangeable. The greater number of Combs are made with full sheets of foundation, wired in. Frames have thick top-bars. My average of honey and increase for the past three seasons: 1893, honey, 110 lbs., increase, 90 %; 1894, honey, 114 lbs., increase, 90 %; 1895, honey, 58 lbs., increase, 3 %.

This locality was visited by a quite hard frost in May, which destroyed all tree bloom and buds in the valleys, so the bees had to go on the ridges miles away for supplies, so I got ½ crop of honey and no increase.

Also, I have 30 Kegs of best water-white Basswood Honey, 260 pounds in a Keg, which I will deliver, f.o.b. cars here. One Keg or more, at 6½ cents. I have a few 50-pound Kits worth 6½ cents. Sample will be sent on application. My honey is now granulated.

Address, A. G. WILSON,
KICKAPOO, Vernon Co., WIS.

Mention the American Bee Journal.

WANTED—To exchange a 12-inch Vandervort Foundation Mill, but little used, for a Breech-Loading Shot-Gun.

4A2t J. P. H. BROWN, Augusta, Ga.

FOR SALE.

ALSIKE, CRIMSON, ITALIAN, ALFALFA, or WHITE CLOVER SEED.

4A8t WM. CRAIG, Luce, Mich.

WANTED—200 Colonies of Bees and 4-FRAME NUCLEI on Simplicity or Hoffman frames, in exchange for Supplies, to be shipped either from here or Medina, Ohio. Send for Catalog to—GEO. E. HILTON,
4E4t FREMONT, MICH.

Mention the American Bee Journal.

BASSWOOD TREES!

Orders booked now for Spring delivery for Nursery-Grown Basswood Seedlings

5 to 9 inches high, at \$2.00 per 100; 300 for \$5 or \$15.00 for 1000. Parties living east of the Mississippi river will be supplied direct from our Nurseries in Ohio. Satisfaction guaranteed.

A. H. FITCH,
702 Youngerman Bldg., DES MOINES, IOWA.
4A4t Mention the American Bee Journal.

TAKE NOTICE!

BEFORE placing your orders for SUPPLIES, write for prices on 1-Piece Basswood Sections, Bee-Hives, Shipping-Crates, Frames, Foundation, Smokers, etc.

PAGE & LYON MFG. CO.

NEW LONDON, WIS.

Mention the American Bee Journal.

stroth. I have three or four 8-frame hives. My experience has been that the bees go into the supers just as soon in an 11-frame hive as if it had but 8 frames, and I get 32 sections of honey in a large hive just as quick as I do 24 sections in an 8-frame hive, and I do not think the bees are as apt to swarm so often. I give them supers at the proper time.

My best colony produced 160 perfect sections of honey the past season.

M. M. MILLER.

Chatsworth, Ill., Dec. 9, 1895.

Bees Near a Railroad Track.

In reply to a question asked recently about locating an apiary near a railroad, I would say that my bees are in winter quarters just 15 feet from a railroad side-track, and 30 feet from the main track, where the trains are passing as often as one every half hour. I have opened the front of my bee-house when the trains were passing, paid strict attention to them, and I could not perceive any difference in them. The bees do not seem to pay any attention to the jarring and confusion of the trains passing. I have a neighbor that has been in the bee-business several years, and his bees are kept, in winter and summer, less than two rods from the same railroad, and he is successful with his bees. In my opinion it does not make any difference, except when the bees are coming home loaded, and a train is passing, it might make it a little inconvenient for them, as they might have to rise higher than they would had the train not been there. I shall locate my bees within less than four rods of the track.

Homer, Minn.

E. B. HUFFMAN.

Colo. Foul Brood Inspector's Report.

By request of some bee-keepers of this locality, I herewith send the last report of our County Bee Inspectors, for publication. The first column of figures shows the number of colonies inspected, and the second column the number found diseased with foul brood:

Arapahoe county.	4,359	587
Boulder "	327	8
Bent "	19	13
Huerfano "	512	
Jefferson "	2,330	89
Larimer "	15	4
Weld "	470	29
Mesa "	1,892	203

Total.....9,924 933

Of those colonies found diseased, 207 were ordered to be destroyed. There were quite a number of colonies affected with paralysis, which were not included in this report.

For the benefit of those bee-keepers who intend to remove with their bees to this State, I would say that it is to their interest to have their bees inspected before doing so. Section 7 of our State law on bee-diseases reads as follows:

"Should the owner or possessor of diseased colonies of bees, or any portion of said colonies, be they queens or workers, or of any affected appliances for bee-keeping, knowingly sell or barter, or give away, or move or allow to be moved, such diseased colonies, or portion of colonies, or infested appliances, he shall, on conviction before any justice of the peace, be liable to a fine of not less than \$50 or more than \$100, or to imprisonment in the county jail for any term not exceeding two months."

FRANK RAUCHFUSS,

Sec'y. Colo. State B.-K. Association.

Duff, Colo., Dec. 7, 1895.

Best Hives and Bees—Report.

In speaking of our failures, I often think of a friend who once said that to be successful in any pursuit we must first pass through an age of darkness. This statement can surely be applied to bee-keepers, for where is there a bee-keeper of any note who has not made glowing and expensive

CHEAP SECTIONS! CHEAP SECTIONS!

We have at this Branch among the Stock purchased of Thos. G. Newman the following stock of Sections—not of our manufacture—which we desire to close out to make room for our

Superior Extra Polished Sections.

In order to close them out quickly we offer them for the next 60 days, or while they last, at these special prices:

White Sections, 4¼x4¼.		Cream Sections, 4¼x4¼.	
40,000 1 15-16 }	1,000 for \$1.75	10,000 1 15-16 }	1,000 for \$1.25
50,000 1½ }	2,000 for 3.00	20,000 1½ }	2,000 for 2.00
80,000 7-to-ft. }	5,000 for 7.00	1,000 7-to-ft. }	5,000 for 4.50

With all orders for less than 5,000, add 25 cts. for cartage.

These Sections are of Wisconsin manufacture, and when made were doubtless considered as good as the best; but as compared with our Extra Polished Sections they are not up to the standard of to-day, but a decided bargain and should be closed out quickly at these very low prices. If you prefer a sample before ordering we will mail one for 5 cts. to cover postage.

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OVER ONE HUNDRED POULTRY PICTURES

Of Poultry Houses, Incubators, Brooders and Poultry Appliances in Poultry Keeper Illustrated No. 1. Price 25 cents postpaid, or 75 cents for four numbers of 1896. That leading poultry magazine, THE POULTRY KEEPER one year fifty cents, or both the Poultry Keeper and Illustrated one year to new subscribers only eighty cents. Sample Poultry Keeper FREE. POULTRY KEEPER CO., Box T, Parkersburg, Chester Co., Penna.

mistakes? I will name a few of my blunders pertaining to our pleasant pursuit.

The first is a lot of 8-frame hives I made, which are a nuisance in this locality, for the reason that they are too small, as the bees are often found in a starving condition before clover blooms, owing to breeding and increase of bees; being so small the bees are liable to swarm too much. The hive will not accommodate bees enough to work to the best advantage. I know this is true, as I have had 12-frame hives in the apiary for several years, and it is a common thing to find 10 frames of brood in these large hives during the summer. Another thing, I want my bees to gather their stores for winter and spring use, for I despise being compelled to feed my bees through the spring, for the reason they do better on natural stores gathered the previous season.

I will sum the matter up as follows: I want a handy hive so I can manage my bees with the least amount of labor, and at the same time get a good crop of honey, if the flowers furnish the nectar, as I have a small farm to look after and do the work on it as well as to tend the bees.

What strain or race of bees will we keep? This is settled in my mind. I would not give one imported Italian queen for one dozen of the choicest 5-banded Italian queens in existence. I have imported queens direct from Italy, also had the golden queens from many breeders, so I think I know what I say. I like gentle bees, also bees that will winter on the summer stands and not dwindle down to a handful per hive.

My report for 1895 is as follows: I commenced the season with 75 colonies that wintered without loss, and increased to 80 colonies; secured a crop of honey amounting to 1,278 pounds, an average of 17 pounds per colony. I had an average of 41 pounds per colony in 1894.

C. A. BUNCH.

Nye, Ind.

Three Seasons' Reports, Etc.

I suppose we ought to report our honey crops, good or bad. This is my third year of bee-keeping. In 1893 my bees averaged 110 pounds per colony, spring count; in

1894, a fraction over 80 pounds; and this year they only averaged 27½ pounds. But I must not complain, for I know several bee-keepers around here that have from 5 to 40 colonies that have not any surplus at all. I have come to the conclusion that if we keep many bees on these ridges we shall have to sow forage for them. They appear to do better along the Mississippi bluffs. I think the reason is because the bluffs are so steep that they can scarcely be pastured with sheep, consequently there is more forage for the bees.

I had one colony this year that every time I went into the yard I would see one, two or three bees crawling around the front of the hive apparently blind. Their heads were very small, and sometimes I saw a very small eye on one side of the head. I would like to know if any one else ever had such a case. I have never seen anything of the kind in any bee books or papers. I think I know what I ought to have done with that queen—I ought to have pulled her head off and given them a better one.

DANIEL SMETHURST.

Seneca, Wis., Dec. 16, 1895.

Queens and Queen-Rearing.

If you want to know how to have queens fertilized in upper stories while the old queen is still laying below; how you may safely introduce any queen, at any time of the year when bees can fly; all about the different races of bees; all about shipping queens, queen-cages, candy for queen-cages, etc.; all about forming nuclei, multiplying or uniting bees, or weak colonies, etc.; or, in fact, everything about the queen-business which you may want to know—send for Doolittle's "Scientific Queen-Rearing"—a book of over 170 pages, which is as interesting as a story. Here are some good offers of this book:

Bound in cloth, postpaid, \$1.00; or clubbed with the BEE JOURNAL for one year—both for only \$1.75; or given free as a premium for sending us three new subscribers to the BEE JOURNAL for a year at \$1.00 each.

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Or Manual of the Apiary,

BY PROF. A. J. COOK.

This 15th and latest edition of Prof. Cook's magnificent book of 460 pages, in neat and substantial cloth binding, we propose to give away to our present subscribers, for the work of getting new subscribers for the American Bee Journal.

A description of the book here is quite unnecessary—it is simply the most complete scientific and practical bee-book published to-day. Fully illustrated, and all written in the most fascinating style. The author is also too well-known to the whole bee-world to require any introduction. No bee-keeper is fully equipped, or his library complete, without "THE BEE-KEEPER'S GUIDE."

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Send us Two New Subscribers to the Bee Journal and your own renewal (with \$3.00), and we will mail you a copy of Prof. Cook's book FREE as a premium, and also a copy of the 160-page "Bees and Honey" to each New Subscriber. Prof. Cook's book alone is \$1.25, or we club it with the Bee Journal for a year—both together for only \$1.75. But surely anybody can get only 2 new subscribers to the Bee Journal for a year, and thus get the book as a premium. Let everybody try for it. Will you have one?

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Bee-Keepers' Photograph.—We have now on hand a limited number of excellent photographs of prominent bee-keepers—a number of pictures on one card. The likeness of 49 of them are shown on one of the photographs, and 121 on the other. We will send them, postpaid, for 50 cents each, mailing from the 121 kind first; then after they are all gone, we will send the 49 kind. So those who order first will get the most "faces" for their honey.



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Dear Sirs:—The Sections came duly to hand. Indeed, they are very nice. Yes, sir; they are as good as the best. CHARLES H. THIES, Steeleville, Illinois.

Leahy Mfg. Co.:—I have received the bill of goods. I must say they are the choicest lot of Hive-Stuff I have ever received from any place. I admire the smoothness of your work, and your close selection of lumber. Yours very truly, O. K. OLMSTEAD, Orleans, Nebr.

Dear Sirs:—The Sections arrived in due time, and are all O. K. so far as examined. They are simply perfection. I can't see how you can furnish such goods at such low prices. I hope you may live long and do well. Yours respectfully, Z. S. WEAVER, Courtney, Tex.

Gents:—I received the "Higginsville Smoker" all O. K. It's a dandy; please find enclosed stamps for another. Yours truly, OTTO ENDERS, Oswegatche, N. Y.

Gentlemen:—I have bought Supplies from nearly all the large manufacturers by the carload, and I must say yours are as good as the best. Indeed, in many lines they are the best. It is a pleasure to handle them. E. T. FLANAGAN, Belleville, Illinois.

The above unsolicited testimonials are a fair sample of hundreds we receive. Our prices are reasonable and the "Higginsville Goods" are the best.

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We are pleased to announce that, having secured control of the new Weed process of manufacturing foundation for the U. S., we are prepared to furnish **Foundation by the New Process**, for 1896. Samples will be mailed free on application, and will speak for themselves.

OUR SANDED and POLISHED SECTIONS, well, they will speak for themselves, also.

Our 1896 Catalog

will be ready for distribution now in a few days. Send in your name at once for catalog, samples of the new foundation, and those superb sections, and while you are about it ask for late copy of **Gleanings in Bee-Culture**.

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